

Celebrating 50 years of Proclaiming Christ
BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH

The Evidences of True Circumcision

Philippians 3:1-3



¹ Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed *is* not grievous, but for you *it is* safe. ² Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision. ³ For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. ⁴ Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: ⁵ Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.



7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:



Philippians 3:1 (AV)



- **Finally, my brethren,**
rejoice in the Lord.

Be Happy!
Experience Joy!

Blue Letter Bible

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VERSE or Word(s) KJV

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Textus Receptus

3:1 Τὸ λοιπὸν ἀδελφοί μου χαίρετε ἐν κυρίῳ τὰ αὐτὰ γράφειν ὑμῖν ἐμοὶ μὲν οὐκ ὀκνηρὸν ὑμῖν δὲ ἀσφαλές

Interlinear Reverse Interlinear

English (KJV) [?]	Strong's	Root Form (Greek)	Parsing
Finally	G3063	λοιπὸν <i>loipon</i>	
my	G3450	μου <i>mou</i>	
brethren	G80	ἀδελφός <i>adelphos</i>	
rejoice	G5463	χαίρω <i>chairō</i>	
in	G1722	ἐν <i>en</i>	
the Lord	G2962	κύριος <i>kyrios</i>	

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Verse, Word(s) or Topic KJV [?]

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Parsing Information

χαίρω *chairō*

Tense: Present
Voice: Active
Mood: Imperative

* The Present Active Imperative verb form occurs 58 times in the New Testament.

Rejoicing in the Lord is imperative.



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We Will
Talk About this
Again in
Chapter 4 v. 4



CHANGING

DIRECTION

v. 1 b



Philippians 3:1b (AV)



- To write **the same things** to you, to me indeed *is* not grievous, but for you *it is* safe.

NET

- To write **this again** is no trouble to me,

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From Paul's Perspective

He is dealing with
something a 2nd time.



Philippians 3:1 (AV)



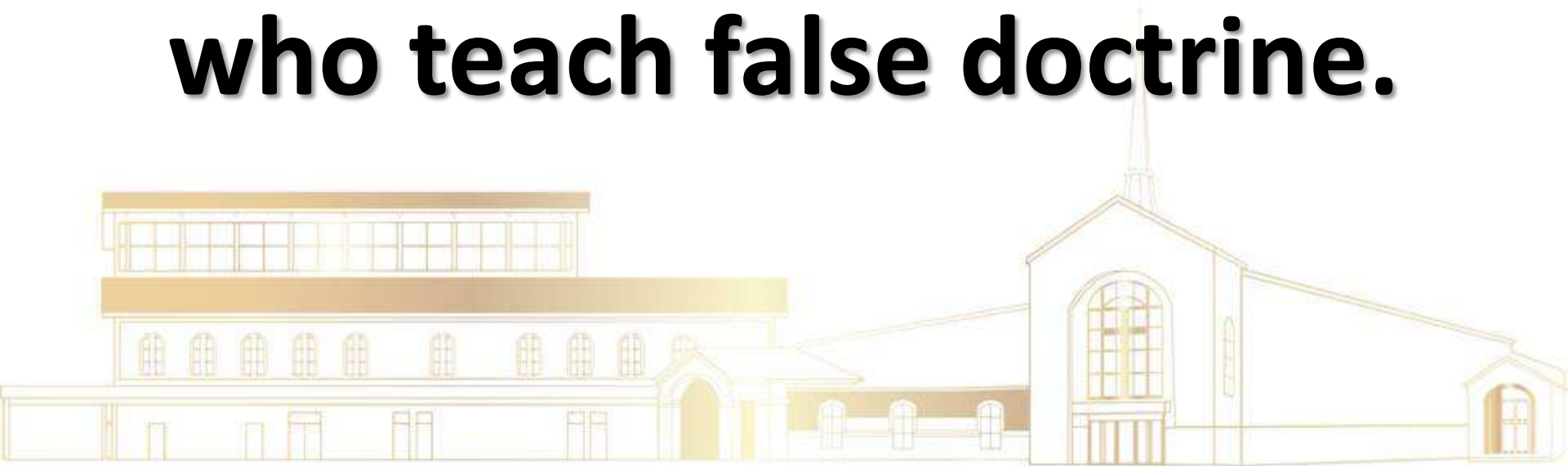
- To write the same things to you, to me indeed *is* not grievous, but for you *it is* safe.

NET

- To write this again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

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**The intent of Paul's
instruction is to protect
the church from those
who teach false doctrine.**



Philippians 3:2



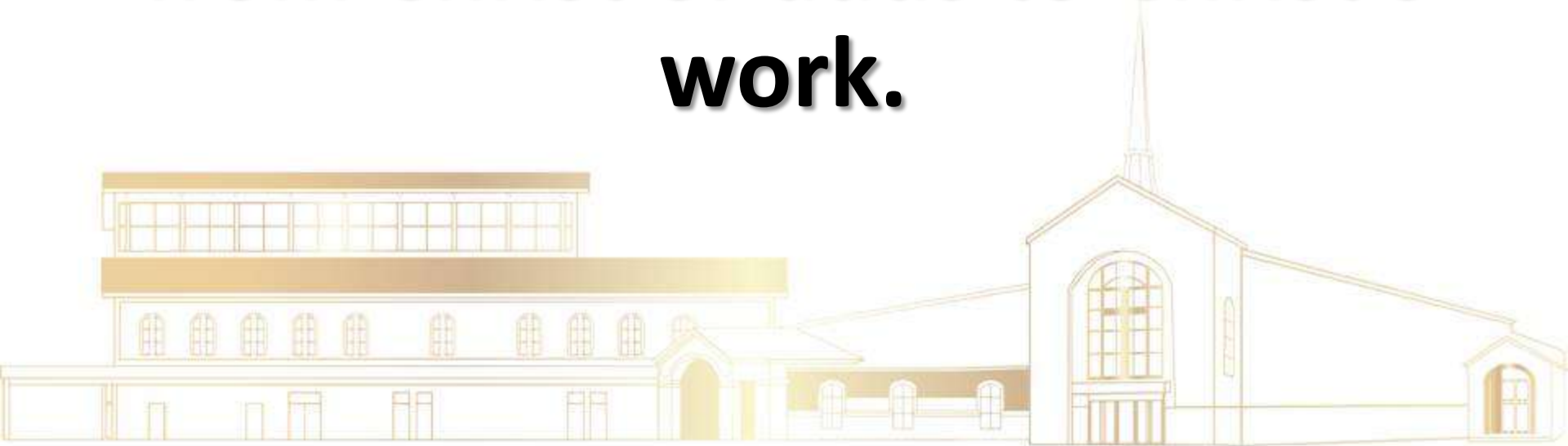
• Beware of dogs,

The Jews who emphasized circumcision called the uncircumcised 'dogs.' Now Paul is calling them dogs.

**This is
biting
sarcasm.**

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**Dogs represent any religious
person who teaches
righteousness is found apart
from Christ or adds to Christ's
work.**



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You Ask

How do we know that
Paul is the confronting
this false doctrine?



⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—



Philippians 3:2



- **beware of evil workers,**

Furthermore, he calls those who teach that righteousness can be acquired by keeping the law **evil.**

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Beware of

Any religious entity who puts emphasis on keeping or doing something for righteousness or God's favor. These include...



Beware of today' dogs and evil workers

1. Any group that puts a premium on keeping or the taking of sacraments.

The Sacraments



Beware of today' dogs and evil workers

1. Any group that puts a premium on keeping or the taking of sacraments.

2. Any group that teaches baptism is necessary for salvation.



Beware of today' dogs and evil workers

1. Any group that puts a premium on keeping or the taking of sacraments.
2. Any group that teaches baptism is necessary for salvation.
- 3. Any group that puts a premium on obeying the law like food prohibitions or keeping the Sabbath.**



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH



Beware of today' dogs and evil workers

1. Any group that puts a premium on keeping or the taking of sacraments.
2. Any group that teaches baptism is necessary for salvation.
3. Any group that puts an emphasis on obeying the law like food prohibitions or keeping the Sabbath.
- 4. Any group that suggests tongues is necessary evidence of true salvation.**



Beware of today' dogs and evil workers

1. Any group that puts a premium on keeping or the taking of sacraments.
2. Any group that teaches baptism is necessary for salvation.
3. Any group that puts an emphasis on obeying the law like food prohibitions or keeping the Sabbath.
4. Any group that suggests tongues is an evidence of true salvation.
- 5. Any group suggest or implies that material prosperity in the true test of God's favor.**



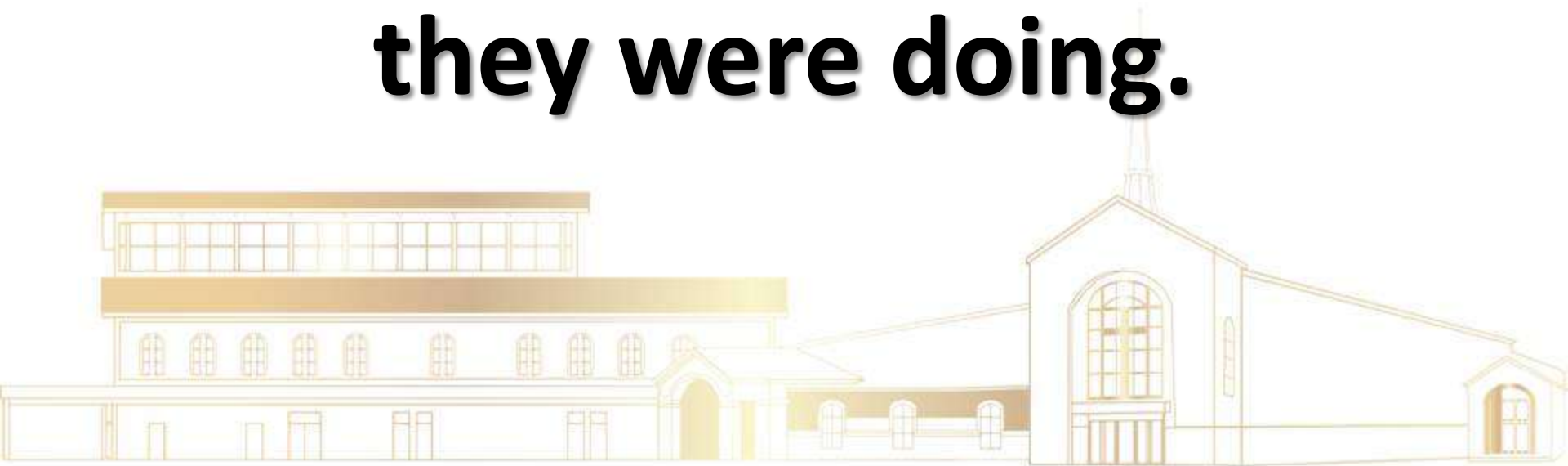


Beware of the Dogs!

Dogs are people who negatively impact your relationship w/ Christ.



**Next, Paul doubles down
on the irony or sarcasm in
the way he describes what
they were doing.**



Philippians 3:2



•beware of the concision.

KJV Translation Count — Total: 1x

The KJV translates Strong's G2699 in the following manner: concision (1x).

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

/ to cut up, mutilation

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**All they were doing is
cutting something off and
nothing more.**

**The true Israel of God has
a different circumcision.**



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The Concision is being compared To the Circumcision



AV | beware of the concision.

**ESV | look out for those who
mutilate the flesh.**

NKJV | beware of the mutilation!

**NET | beware of those who
mutilate the flesh!**

**NASB95 | beware of the false
circumcision;**



The Concision (Mutilators)

- This group insisted that physical circumcision was an absolute requirement for salvation.
- You will hear them called Judaizers from Galatians 2:14.
- They were not denying CHRIST they were adding circumcision to the requirement for salvation.





Presbyterians v. Baptists



1. The church of the Old Testament and the church of the New Testament are, in essence, the same church;
2. God includes the children of believers as members of this church;
3. In the Old Testament era, children of believers, because they were church members, were given the sign of circumcision;
4. In the New Testament era, God has taken the sign of circumcision and changed it to baptism;
5. Therefore, in the New Testament era, children of believers, because they are church members, are to be given the sign of baptism.



If the Presbyterians

Are right, here is my question:

Why didn't Paul tell those who were insisting circumcision was still required—that infant baptism replaced circumcision?



Philippians 3:3



- **For we are the circumcision,**

**How is Paul
using this
word?**

?

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**Circumcision is used
three ways in the NT!**
Context is everything.



Circumcision is Used 3 Ways in NT



- 1. The physical act in obedience to the Mosaic law**
- 2. The physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**
- 3. The true people of God whose circumcision is one of the heart**

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#1

**The physical and
religious act performed
on males**



Luke 2:21

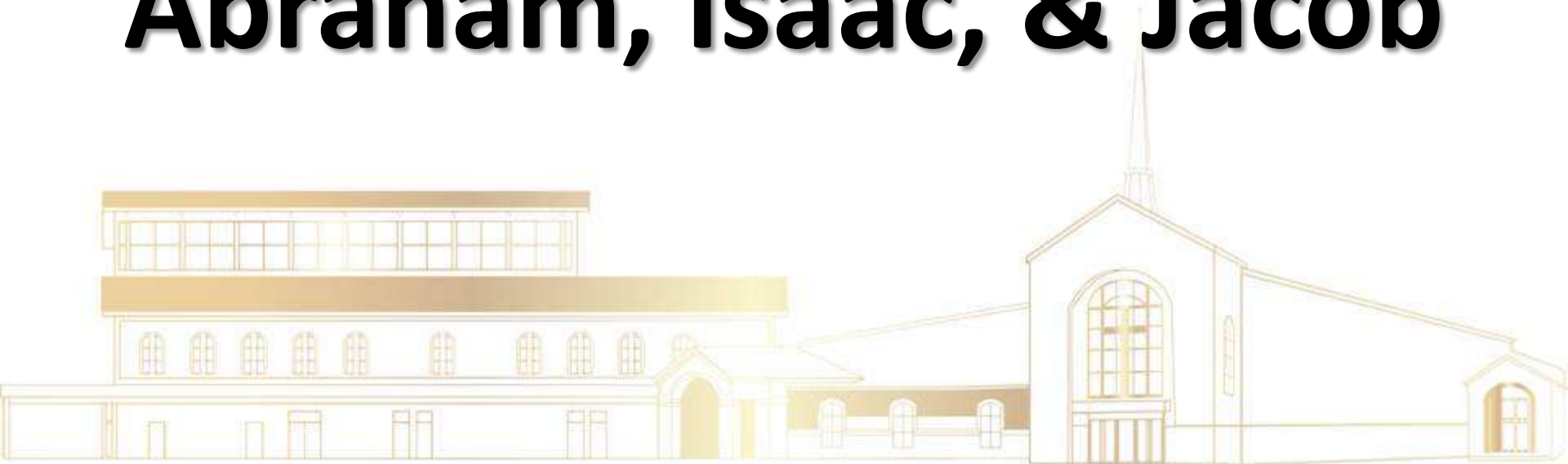
- And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



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#2

Physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob



Acts 10:45

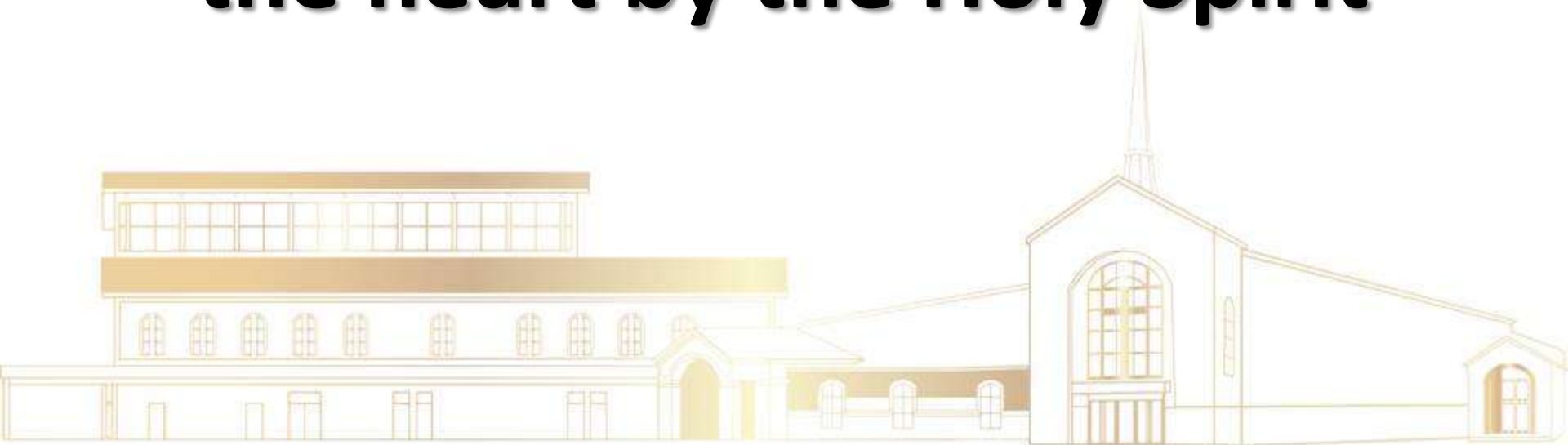
- And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.



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#3

**The true people of God whose
circumcision is spiritually of
the heart by the Holy Spirit**



Romans 2:28-29 (ESV)

- For no one is a [true] Jew who is merely one outwardly, **nor is circumcision outward and physical.**



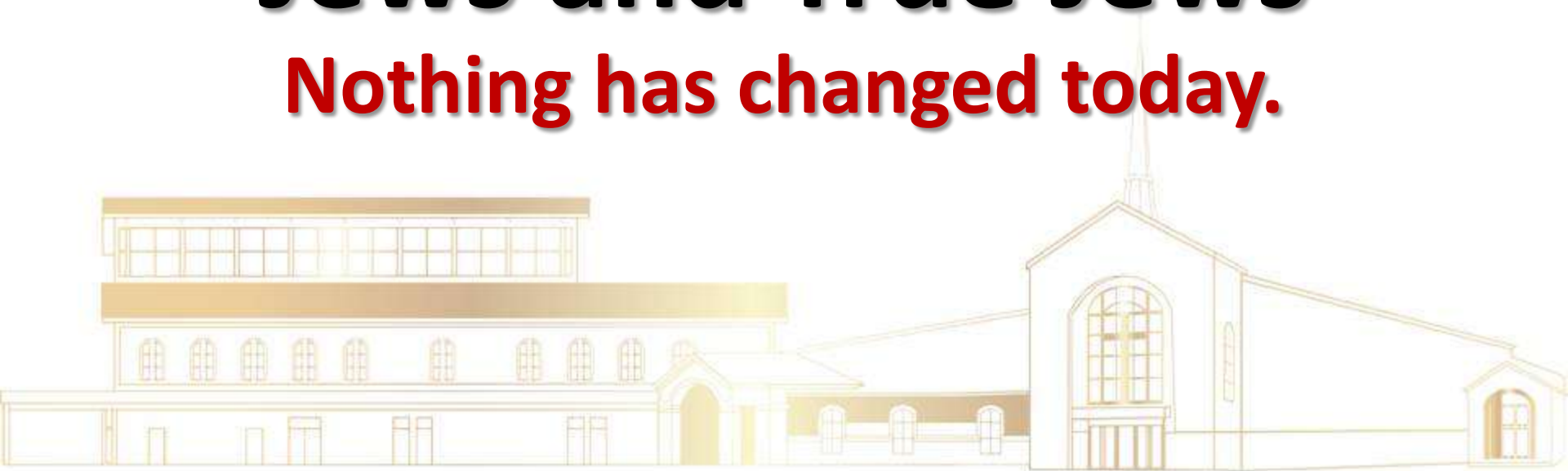
Romans 2:28-29 (ESV)

- But a [true] Jew is one inwardly,
and circumcision is a matter
of the heart, by the Spirit,
not by the letter.



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**Paul is distinguishing
between
Jews and True Jews**
Nothing has changed today.



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Do You Have Any Idea

How many people globally
think they are saved
because they have been
baptized?





Galatians 5:6 (ESV)

- For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, **but only faith working through love.**



**A Living
Faith**



Galatians 6:15 (ESV)

- For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, **but a new creation.**

v. 16 is critical.



Galatians 6:16 (ESV)

- And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, **and upon the Israel of God.**



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Turn to Colossians 2:10ff



¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.



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3 Marks of Authentic Christians

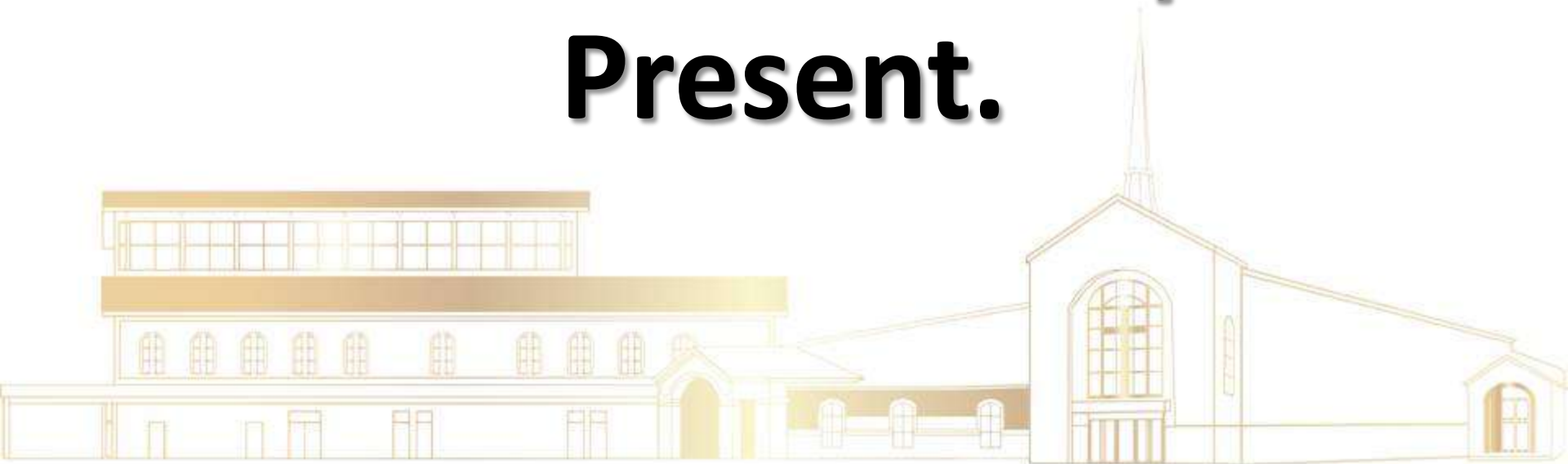
Phil 3:3



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#1

**Spirit-Filled God-
Centered Worship is
Present.**



Philippians 3:3



- For we are the circumcision,
which worship God in the
spirit,

Do you
worship God?

Do you worship God?

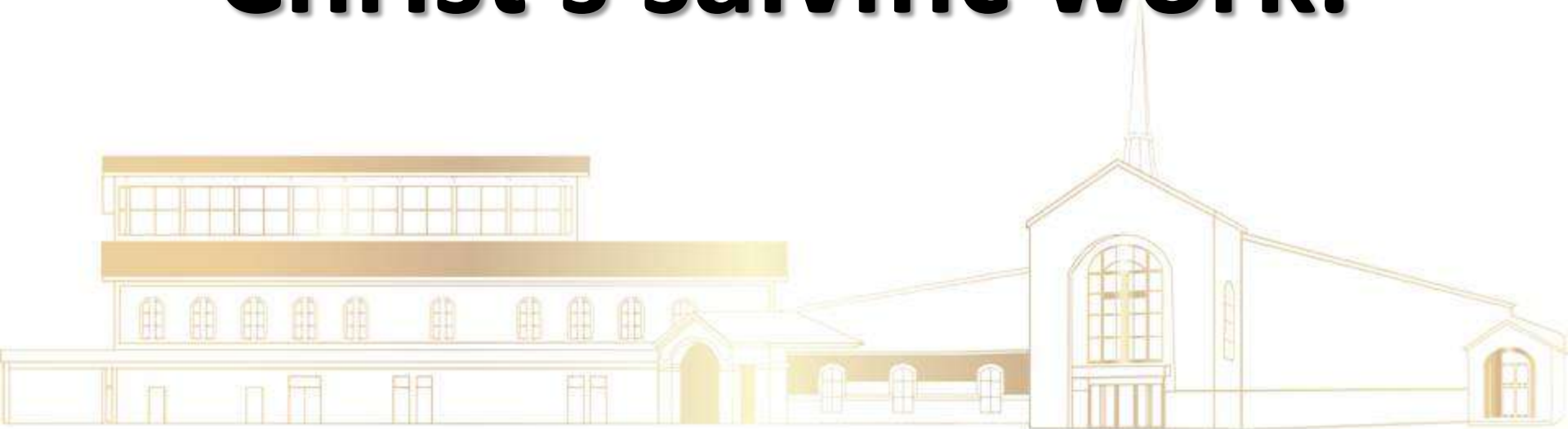
- In song
- In prayer (Hallowed be thy Name)
- In attention to His Word
- In the Lord's Supper
- In giving
- In obedience



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#2

**We ONLY boast in
Christ's salvific work.**



Philippians 3:3 (AV)



- For we are the circumcision,
which worship God in the spirit,
and rejoice in
Christ Jesus

This is not the same Greek word as v. 1

KJV Translation Count — Total: 38x

The KJV translates Strong's G2744 in the following manner: glory (23x), boast (8x), rejoice (4x), make boast (2x), joy (1x).



Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

- I. to glory (whether with reason or without)
- II. to glory on account of a thing
- III. to glory in a thing

Strong's Definitions [?]

(Strong's Definitions Legend)

† καυχάομαι kauchaómai, kow-khah'-om-ahee; from some (obsolete) base akin to that of αὔχέω auchéō (to boast) and G2172; to vaunt (in a good or a bad sense):—(make) boast, glory, joy, rejoice.



AV | and rejoice in Christ Jesus

ESV | and glory in Christ Jesus

NKJV | rejoice in Christ Jesus

NASB95 | and glory in Christ
Jesus

NET | exult in Christ Jesus



We Glory In



- His sinless life
- His perfect obedience
- Jesus' shed blood
- Christ's love demonstrated for all to see and experience through faith
- His wrath absorbing sacrifice
- The sufficiency of His atoning death

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#3

**We have no confidence
in our own personal
good deeds.**



Philippians 3:3



- and have no confidence in the flesh.

**Paul does not say WE are
the baptized. So what
does Paul mean by we are
the circumcised?**

